



BONUSES TO CONTINUE THROUGHOUT NEGOTIATIONS

The bonuses for public sector personnel, set to expire on September 30, 2020, will be maintained for the duration of the negotiations. This was confirmed to the different trade unions on September 29 by the Treasury Board.

From the onset of negotiation sessions, the CSQ had asked that the allotment of the amounts intended to promote the attraction and retention for some key positions in the public sector, like specialized workers, psychologists and certain categories of personnel working in CHSLDs or with patients with disruptive behaviour disorders (DBD), be extended for the whole duration of the negotiations.

CSQ president Sonia Ethier said: "These bonuses have an effect on attraction and retention of personnel in our institutions already weakened by the labour shortage, namely the CHSLDs and the schools and higher education institutions. The Treasury Board itself recognized, during the work done between two rounds of

negotiation, that maintaining some of these bonuses did have an effect on the attraction and retention of personnel."

Unacceptable threats

The CSQ regrets that, for the second time in six months, the government threatened to end these bonuses and yet again waited until the last minute, before finally announcing they'll continue.

These bonuses were initially set to end on March 30, 2020, and the CSQ had to increase the pressure so they'd be extended for the duration of the negotiations. The government had ultimately accepted to extend them only for a six-month period and that, on the day they were to expire. Over the last few weeks, the CSQ federations had to mobilize again to demand their continuation.



CSQ President Sonia Ethier

Photo: Pascal Ratthe

Even though we appreciate the decision to extend the bonuses, it nonetheless seems essential that the Treasury Board make an even more significant step forward and accept, as asked by the Centrale and its federations, to renew and improve these bonuses in the next collective agreement, so the labour shortage problem doesn't get worse.

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